

## Maritime Administration, DOT

## § 388.4

(2) The Passenger Services Act, section 8 of the Act of June 19, 1886 (46 App. U.S.C. 289); and

(3) The Jones Act, section 27 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1920 (46 App. U.S.C. 883).

(c) *Eligible vessel* means a vessel of five or more tons that is either a small passenger vessel or an uninspected passenger vessel that—

(1) Was not built in the United States and is at least 3 years of age; or

(2) If rebuilt, was rebuilt outside the United States at least 3 years before the certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement if granted, would become effective.

(d) *MARAD* means the Maritime Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation.

(e) *Secretary* means the Secretary of Transportation.

(f) The terms, *small passenger vessel*, *uninspected passenger vessel* and *passenger for hire* have the meaning given such terms by section 2101 of title 46, United States Code.

(g) *Fraud* means the intentional misrepresentation of a material fact or facts.

### § 388.3 Application and fee.

(a) An owner of a vessel may choose either of two methods to apply for an administrative waiver of the coastwise trade laws of the United States for an eligible vessel to carry no more than twelve passengers for hire.

(1) The application form contained on MARAD's Web site at <http://www.marad.dot.gov> may be submitted electronically with credit card or Automated Clearinghouse (ACH) payment of the \$300 application fee.

(2) Alternatively, applicants may send written applications to Small Vessel Waiver Applications, Office of Ports and Domestic Shipping, MAR-830, Room 7201, 400 7th St., SW., Washington, DC 20590. Written applications need not be in any particular format, but must be signed, be accompanied by a check for \$300 made out to the order of "Maritime Administration", and contain the following information:

(i) Name of vessel and owner for which waiver is requested and the vessel's official number.

(ii) Size, capacity and tonnage of vessel (state whether tonnage is measured pursuant to 46 U.S.C. 14502, or otherwise, and if otherwise, how measured).

(iii) Intended use for vessel, including geographic region of intended operation and trade.

(iv) Date and place of construction and (if applicable) rebuilding. (If applicant is unable to document the origin of the vessel, foreign construction will be assumed).

(v) Name, address, and telephone number of the vessel owner.

(vi) A statement on the impact this waiver will have on other commercial passenger vessel operators, including a statement describing the operations of existing operators.

(vii) A statement on the impact this waiver will have on U.S. shipyards.

(viii) A statement that the applicant represents that the foregoing information is true to the best of the applicant's knowledge.

(b) MARAD may ask additional questions of the applicant as part of the application review.

### § 388.4 Criteria for grant of a waiver.

(a) *General criteria.* (1) A waiver of the foreign build and/or foreign rebuild prohibition in the coastwise trade laws will be granted for an eligible vessel only if we determine that the employment of the vessel in the coastwise trade will not unduly adversely affect—

(i) United States vessel builders; or

(ii) The coastwise trade business of any person who employs vessels built in the United States in that business.

(2) The determination of "unduly adverse affect" on a coastwise operator or a U.S. vessel builder may not be limited to operators or builders of vessels carrying 12 or fewer passengers.

(3) We may evaluate the expected impact of the proposed waiver on the basis of the information received from all sources, including public comment, internal investigation and analysis, and any other sources of information deemed appropriate.

(b) *Impact on U.S. vessel builders.* We may use the following criteria to determine the effect on U.S. vessel builders: Whether a potentially impacted U.S. vessel builder has a history of construction of similar vessels, or can